Agilent Ref: 10981612-2 United States Application Serial No. 09/997,564

AMENDMENTS

In The Claims:

Claims 1.-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) A polymeric array composition comprising:

a plurality of distinct polymers stably associated with the surface of a substrate, wherein said substrate comprises a plurality of individually activatable resistors associated with said surface, and at least one of said polymers is associated with at least one of said resistors; and

<u>a solvent layer present on said surface, wherein a portion of said</u>
<u>substrate surface is [[and]]</u>selectively protected from [[reaction]] <u>reactive agents</u>
<u>in said solvent layer</u> by a protective <u>gas</u> bubble.

- 19. (Currently Amended) The polymeric array composition according to Claim 18, wherein said plurality of resistors are beneath said surface of said substrate.
- 20. (Currently Amended) A nucleic-acid-array composition comprising:

a plurality of nucleic acid spots stably associated with the surface of a substrate, wherein said substrate comprises a plurality of individually activatable resistors beneath said surface and at least one of said nucleic acid spots is associated with at least one of said resistors; and

<u>a solvent layer present on sald surface, wherein a portion of said substrate surface is [[and-]]</u> selectively protected from [[reaction]] reactive agents in said solvent layer by a protective gas bubble.

Claims 21-23 (Canceled)

Claims 24. - 27. (Canceled)

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- 28. (Currently Amended) The polymeric array composition according to Claim 18, wherein said polymers are nucleic acids.
- 29. (Currently Amended) The polymeric array composition according to Claim 18, further comprising an electrical current application means associated with said resistors.
- 30. (Currently Amended) The polymeric array composition according to Claim 29, further comprising an electrical current controlling means associated with said electrical current application means.

Claims 31 to 33 (Cancelled).

- 34. (Currently Amended) The polymeric array composition according to Claim 20 [[31]], further comprising an electrical current application means associated with said resistors.
- 35. (Currently Amended) The polymeric-array composition according to Claim 34, further comprising an electrical current controlling means associated with said electrical current application means.